1409 Deer Meadow Lane Boothwyn, PA 19061-l 925 August-Ii, 1999 02 39 35 13

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

Docket #98N-1230; #96P-0418; and #98P-0197

To whom it may concern:

In the matter of forced molting of hens, the Food and Drug Administration should prohibit this practice because it has been proven to promote disease by destroying the immune systems of the starving hens.

It is simply not enough to place "Bacteria warning" labels on egg cartons and to regulate egg refrigeration temperatures. The FDA should ban farm practices, such as forced molting, that impair human health.

Forced molting results in contaminated eggs, which results in infectious diseases in humans. In the case of forced molting, cruelty to animals leads directly to a cruel deception of the consumer.

The FDA was petitioned in April 1998 to prohibit forced molting. I urge you to grant this petition immediately.

I would very much appreciate your favorable consideration of this very important matter.

Very truly yours,

Stephen Jo appel

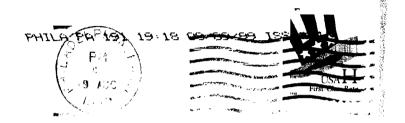
Stephen J. Appel

CROSS FILE SHEET

98N-1230/C196 File Number:

97P-0197/ C197 96P-04 18/ C196 See File Number:

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